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NO 11.

United States Shalters Packers Trust.

The government's anti-trust action against the great meat packers, begun at President Wilson's direction last summer as part of the fight on the high cost of living, has been compromised under an agreement by which the packers will confine themselves hereafter to the meat and provision business. An injunction decree to which the packers have acceded will be entered in the Federal courts to make the agreement binding. Under its terms the "big five"—Swift, Armour, Morris, Wilson and Cudahy—have agreed:

To sell, under supervision of the United States district court, preferably to the livestock producers and the public, all their holdings in public stockyards.

To sell, under the same supervision, and in like manner, all their interests in stockyards, railroads and terminals.

To sell all their interests in market newspapers.

To dispose of all their interest in public cold storage warehouses except as necessary for their own meat products.

To forever dissociate themselves with the retail meat business.

To forever dissociate themselves with all "unrelated lines," including wholesale groceries, fresh, canned, dried and salt fish, fresh, dried or canned vegetables, fresh, crushed, dried, evaporated or canned fruits, confectioneries, syrups, soda water, fountain supplies, etc., molasses, honey, jams, jellies and preserves, ices, sauces, relishes, etc., coffee, tea, chocolate, cocoa, nuts, flour, sugar, rice and cereals (with an exception to be noted), bread, wafers, crackers, biscuits, spaghetti, vermicelli, macaroni, cigars, china, furniture, etc.

To forever abandon the use of branch houses, route cars and auto trucks, comprising their distribution system, for any other than their own meat and dairy products.

To perpetually submit to the jurisdiction of the United States district court under an injunction forbidding all the defendants from directly or indirectly maintaining any combination or conspiracy with each other or any other person or persons, or monopolizing or attempting or attempting to monopolize any food products, in the U. S., or indulging in any unfair and unlawful practice.

The decree further provides the jurisdiction is perpetually retained by the courts for the purpose of taking such other action, or adding at the foot of the decree such other relief, if any, that may become necessary or appropriate for the carrying out and enforcement of the decree, or for the purpose of entering at any time hereafter in an application which the parties may make with respect to this decree.

Two years are given to comply with the decree, which affects 87 corporations and 49 individuals.

"In general," said Attorney General Palmer's official announcement "this decree prevents the defendants from exercising any other control over the marketing of livestock. It forever prevents them from any control over the retailing of meat products. It eliminates them from the field of meat substitutes, with the exception of eggs, butter, poultry and cheese, which are left for future consideration and appropriate action; and, therefore, the price of meat is with control of the peo-

The Republican Mountain Counties.

The time is coming along when the people of this section will be agitating the matter of a readjustment of the ninth district by which there may be established a more intimate alignment of county interests—to bring the democratic household elementally more in harmony with itself. Mecklenburg has nothing in common with the Virginia bordering counties. They are North Carolina in it is true, but they belong across the ridge. That section is out of social, commercial and political intercourse with this section, and was brought into the district with the sole purpose of keeping it under Democratic congressional influences. When we ruminate upon the circumstances we must come into admission of the fact that we are withholding from the people of these counties a political right to which they are justly entitled—a congressman of their own. Mitchell, Madison and Avery are constitutional Republican counties. They are located in a traditional Republican section. They ought to have a congressman of their political faith, if we view the matter from the standpoint of exact justice and fairness. They are entitled to it. The only reason advanced against a Republican Congressman from these Republican counties is that it would break a solid delegation the Democrats have been maintaining in Congress. Is maintenance of a solid delegation advantageous to the party? If such might be contended it would be an advantage from the sentimental standpoint only. It might prove a stroke of good policy on the part of the Democrats to permit representation by these mountain Republicans in congress in recognition of their manifest rights. For one thing it would save the workers in the party the unnecessary worry which comes their way every two years against letting these Republicans beat them.

So when the matter of readjustment of the district shall become of serious agitation the Observer will be inclined to favor bringing Mecklenburg into closer political accord with its neighbors, as of old, and at the same time consolidating these mountain Republican counties into a nest of their own, and, in blunt admission give them a "square deal."—Charlotte Observer.

ple themselves. It places the conduct of these great aggregations of capital immediately under the eye of a Federal court with reference to their business practices. But, greater than all, it establishes the principle that no group of men, no matter how powerful, can ever attempt to control the food table of the American people, or any one of the necessities or component parts of it.

"The department of justice, having in mind the necessities and interests of the whole American people, in this critical reconstruction period, feels that by insisting upon this surrender on the part of the packing interests it has accomplished more for the American people than could have been hoped for as the result of a long drawn out legal battle.

Bills proposing government regulation of the packing industry, now before the Senate agriculture committee, will not be abandoned as a result of the decree, Senators Kenyon of Iowa, and Kendrick of Wyoming, authors of the measures have announced.

Stirring up a Row.

Spiritualism has been making mighty advances in this country, and so far all spiritualists have been sticking together in harmony. Mrs. Ackerman, of New Jersey, was one of the shining lights and she has been endeavoring to invoke the shades of Colonel Roosevelt as a master-stroke in boosting the cause. The rebuke of Archie Roosevelt because he has been standing out against the persuasion of the spiritualists to have converse with his father is not likely to disturb the resolution of that sensible young man or shame him in the congregation of Mrs. Ackerman. It was a spiritualistic reproof gone astray. But while Mrs. Ackerman may have succeeded in her purpose of making popular demonstration of her ability to talk with the dead, she unconsciously started a smoke in the Temple of Spirits. She must know that the spirits, as well as mortals, are divided on the League of Nations and her protection of the emphatic views Colonel Roosevelt is expressing through her agencies is destined to cause a breach in another harmoniously-dwelling family. The League propaganda she has originated through her ouija board may start a contention which might tear spiritualism asunder. For every dozen believers it brings her, it is sure to develop a dozen dissenters, and a fine old row is likely to be stirred up not only in the spirit world but here on earth, and especially among the Lodge forces, who will stand out more strongly than ever against ratification of either the Treaty or the ouija board. In fact, we are expecting to hear some people come out with flat-footed declaration that Mrs. Ackerman and her old board are frauds.—The Charlotte Observer.

Resignation of Mr. Watts.

The most important as well as the most surprising political event of the year in North Carolina was the resignation of Mr. Watts. If it hit Washington like a bomb it struck North Carolina like the proverbial thunderbolt from a clear sky. If any other N. Carolinian, either Democrat or Republican, ever voluntarily resigned a public office that paid as much as seven thousand dollars a year, we have not heard of him.

In his action, therefore, Mr. Watts puts himself in a new class all by himself. He has long been alone, but in a different and somewhat more familiar class. We venture to say that for a decade A. D. Watts has been the best informed man on the subject of politics in North Carolina. He can tell you the political complexion of every county in the state, and every congressional district in the nation, with the majority, Republican or Democrat, as the case may be. He is not only a student of politics, but has played the game in North Carolina as successfully as any man in his generation.

First as collector of internal revenue for the Western district, and then as supervisor for the whole state, Mr. Watts has made an enviable record as an official of the Federal government. The state has never had a more efficient collector, or one who did his work with less friction and more general satisfaction to the public.

According to the reports from Washington, Mr. Watts gives as his only reason for resigning his desire to enter private business. It is hard to think of him out of political life.—Winston-Salem Journal.

Plans for Prosecution of Germans

A dispatch from Paris says Under Secretary of State for Military Justice Ignace has gone to London to take part in the making up of a list of Germans charged with war crimes and whose delivery to the entente will be demanded. A conference will be held during this week in London to determine upon a plan for joint action by Great Britain, France and Belgium. France, according to the Echo de Paris, has a list of 500 names ready to be submitted. Among these names is that of one of the former German emperor's sons, and also those of former Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria and several generals and commanders of prison camps in Germany.

In all, according to this newspaper, about 1,500 persons will be arraigned before military tribunals of each of the three nations or by mixed tribunals in cases where the persons are accused of crimes against peoples of various nationalities. It is said that even if culprits are tried by German courts they nevertheless must appear before the allied tribunals. The trials of persons accused of war crimes will be held in Paris and at Lille in 1920. The court-martial at Lille has issued numerous warrants against German officers and soldiers, and a captain and four lieutenants have been imprisoned in the fort at Lille.

A Brussels dispatch says that it has been learned from an authorized source that Holland is declared to have stated officially that it will not deliver up former Emperor William for trial.

A dispatch from Geneva states that the former German Emperor has finally agreed to accept trial by the allies, but adds that he wants to choose the place and time of the trial and desires to be defended by German experts and lawyers. The advice says the former crown prince declares he will never appear if he is called before a court of justice.

A Word for Germany.

The German National Assembly has adjourned until the middle of January, and we may take this as a sign that at Berlin no acute fear exists of internal peril or foreign complications. Intently though the word must watch against any retreat from the new paths upon which the German people has entered we cannot refuse a measure of admiration to the courage and steadfastness with which the beaten Nation has set to work amid the ruins of its greatness. The German's will to power was an evil thing, but a people's will to live, as Germany is now willing to live amid the dangers which surround her, must not call forth unjust suspicions or obstructive enmity. It is only fair to recognize that when Germany, during the early months after the fall of Hohenzollernism, refused to let herself slide into the bolshevist chaos, she was rendering a service to European civilization.—New York Post.

You can do some things next week, but some you cannot.

So don't wait, act now!

Insure your house before it burns.

Insure your health before you get sick.

Insure your life before you die for then it is everlastingly too late.

I sell the best policies at universal rates
GEC. F. BLAIR,
Blowing Rock, N. C.

The Revaluation Act.

While the work of the revaluation of the property of the state is yet incomplete, already sufficient information has been secured to demonstrate the wisdom of the new law. Fact of the matter is, it is hard to understand why a great and intelligent people tolerated the old system as long as they did.

The property is now being placed upon its tax books at its actual value. Before now no one knew the real valuation of the property of the state. When the work is completed North Carolina will know her valuation. Every citizen will know that he is paying only his pro rata rate of taxes. The old system of permitting one man to give in his property at ten per cent of its value and another man at one-half its value has been abolished. Every tax payer stands on a par with every other tax payer when it comes to the valuation of his property and the pro rata of taxes he must pay. The small property owner will not have his property assessed at a higher value than the large property holder. Each stands on the same basis.

The object of the revaluation act is not primarily of raising more taxes. It is one to determine the real value of the property of the state and to equalize the tax burden. Under the new law not more than 10 per cent increase in the amount of taxes collected can be raised. This doesn't mean, of course, that no one individual will pay more taxes. The man who has been a tax dodger and has failed to pay his part of the taxes will of course pay more but the man who has been paying more than his part will pay less.

The new law is one that should have been enacted long ago. It is the greatest progressive step that North Carolina has taken since the little band of Mecklenburg farmers declared their independence of England. It is a law that concerns every property-owner in the state. It is one that should meet the approval and co-operation of every citizen.—Marion Progress.

The Shortest Day.

Those of us who know the Northern winters are aware that the winter solstice brings us but little more than to the beginning of it. What remains of December, and all of January, all of February and a part of March must pass before we really scent the spring; yet already we have reached the shortest days. From now on we shall be traveling toward the "time of the singing of the singing of the birds" at the rate of nineteen miles a second. Every day carries us more than a million and a half miles nearer the end of our term of confinement in our icy prison house.

There is cheer and comfort in the thought, as there always is in progress toward any desired goal. For the present we can endure hardness if only we know that we are gaining. More people cherish the pleasant fancy than those about them suspect. Let some one say, "Well, of course, we've still got most of the winter ahead of us, but the days are ahead of us, but the days are growing longer, anyway," and see how sure some one else is to answer, "Yes, I've always been glad that the shortest day comes so early in the winter."

So in our hearts even the most prosaic of us cherish some little bud of fancy.—Youths Companion.

Great Agricultural Record.

An idea of the value of the agricultural activities of North Carolina can be secured when it is learned that the total value of the principal crops of North Carolina on a basis of December 1 prices is \$603,402,262, according to estimates of the Co-operative Crop Reporting Service of the Department of Agriculture. The tobacco crop leads with a value of \$210,936,200.

The figures given below cover the estimated acreage, production, and total value of North Carolina's important crops. The values are estimated on a basis of prices reported for December 1st.

These estimates are not entirely final but are comparable with the government reports.

Corn: 2,900,000 acres, 55,100,000 bushels, \$101,934,000.

Winter wheat: 850,000 acres, 7,225,000 bushels, \$16,834,250.

Oats: 322,000 acres, 3,767,400 bushels, \$3,993,444.

Rye: 90,000 acres, 810,000 bushels, \$1,701,000.

Buckwheat: 11,000 acres, 269,000 bushels \$293,000.

Potatoes: 58,000 acres, 4,930,000 bushels, \$8,036,000.

Sweet potatoes: 106,000 acres, 9,858,000, \$13,604,000.

Tobacco: 554,000 acres 310,240,000 pounds, \$210,936,200.

Cotton (lint): 1,525,000 acres, 388,375,000 pounds, \$139,995.00.

Cotton (seed): 1,525,000 acres, 785,375,000 pounds, \$30,236,976.

Copeas: 243,000 acres, 2,308,500 bushels, \$6,025,185.

Soy Beans: 82,000 acres, 1,148,000 bushels, \$3,444,000.

Cow peas: 232,941 acres, 326,117 tons, \$7,892,031.

Son beans: 82,000 acres, 123,000 tons, \$2,976,600.

Clovers: 224,000 acres, 336,000 tons, \$9,408,000.

Grain hays: 190,344 acres, 228,413 tons, \$5,801,690.

Other hays: 543,715 acres, 706,830 tons, \$17,105,286.

Fodder: 2,500,000 acres, 562,500 tons \$22,500,000.

PILE UP YOUR DOLLARS SO THAT NO ONE CAN KNOCK THEM DOWN.

Many a tired lad has slipped his coat on when the whistle blew and said derisively: "Another day, another dollar. A million days, a millionaire." He has said a mouthful in bitter jest and without knowing it. For the dollars do pile up if the stack is not knocked over.

Some financial sharpshooter is always gunning for dollars. They can pick them off at a mile like Annie Oakley cracking clay pipes in a shooting gallery. But if you put some of your dollars under cover before any one can draw a bead on them, you leave a slim score for the profiteer and the grafter.

The safest protection from these sharpshooters is War Savings Stamps bought every pay-day. If you give them your whole bank roll to shoot at they will hit it for a perfect score. Make them waste a little ammunition.

War Savings Stamps are absolutely safe. They pay a high rate of interest and you can get your money in full when you need it. When they pile up, nobody can knock the stack over.

Notice of Executorship.

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of L. C. Earp, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate will present them on or before the 22nd day of December, 1920, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please come forward and make immediate settlement. This 22nd day of December, 1919.

L. H. HOLLER,
Executor of the estate of L. C. Earp, Deceased.